

## Remembering Our Past

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Everyone knows that the school began as a hospital, but haven't you ever been curious of the details? Haven't you wondered what your dorm was like a hundred years ago, what the fishtanks looked like, the uses of the underground hill tunnel and the breezeways? Living here, buried under the endless workload, it's easy to forget that we are part of a living legacy, in an institution that altered the face of Durham. It's time to get reacquainted with our own history.

Watts Hospital first opened its doors in the winter of 1895 as a cottage hospital, as founded by George Washington Watts, a tobacco magnate and philanthropist. The architecture was of Spanish Eclectic style. Adding to the distinction of the institution was its nursing program administered by Mary Wyche, one of the leading nurses in the state at the time. The nurses' home, named after its administrator, later became the Royall Center. At the time, the building offered classrooms, dorm rooms, lockers, and a gym. Later in the 1940's when demand for more nursing facilities was high, Hill House was constructed with funds from federal, state, and county governments in addition to donations from the family of George Watts Hill, a member of the board of trustees. The Hill House provided classrooms, labs, a living room, and more dorm rooms for nurses; a swimming pool was built outside of Hill in 1967 for the nurses' use. Watts Hospital functioned as an acute care

hospital and provided service to the entire community while never having a lock on its entrance door.

Walking through the school imagining everything as it used to be a generation ago can be a fascinating experience. The medical wards

Reynolds were used as wards; beds were lined by the windows, separated only by curtains. The maternity wards were in 3rd Bryan and the second and third floors of Watts, which also provided private obstetrics, pediatrics, and nurseries that showcased new-

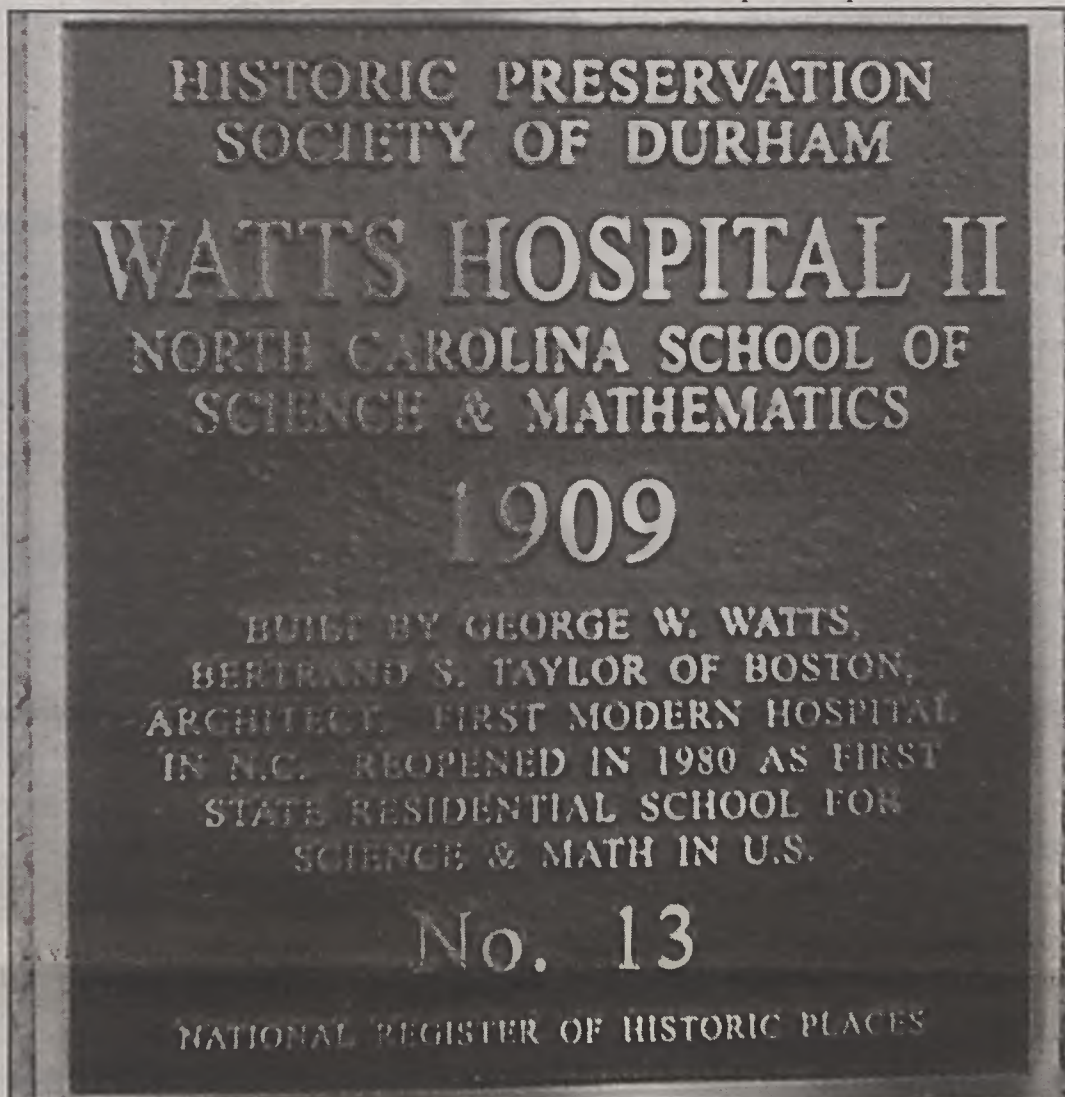
Laboratories were located on Ground C and the physics floor. 1D offered an X-ray pavilion that later became a pharmacy; 2D provided isolation wards and surgical intensive care units. The laundry room on Reynolds used to be part of a polio ward when the

ture rooms and the outpatient clinics. And the Assembly Hall used to be the kitchen and bakery. The list goes on.

As the hospital became the home of Science-and-Math-ers, new facilities including the ETC, PEC, and Hunt dormitory were added while other buildings were taken down, such as the laundry building that had a steam turbine for generating electricity. The back portion of the hospital had allowed for a power plant and an area for grazing sheep, whose blood was occasionally used to research certain diseases in laboratories.

Durham was also affected by the civil rights movement during the 60's. In the winter of 1960, student leaders followed the example of the Greensboro sit-ins by organizing similar actions at the lunch counters of Woolworth, S.H. Kress, and Walgreen's in downtown Durham. Their efforts were effective; the counters were integrated within two weeks. The Woolworth lunch counter is now displayed on our campus.

Watts Hospital closed down in 1976. Over its 81 years, it openly served the community and survived through the Depression, World War II, and the heat of the civil rights movement. But accompanying it was the inauguration of the new Durham County General Hospital and within four years the opening of the then new School of Science and Math. The students succeeded the hospital. Thus another chapter of history was begun.



This sign hangs near Watts Lobby, an original part of the Hospital.

Logan Couce


were located in the present-day 4th Bryan, Reynolds 2C and 2E, and 1st and 3rd Beall. The rooms for surgical patients resided in 1C, 1E, 2nd Beall, and 2nd Bryan. When the need for beds was overwhelming, the breezeways of

born infants (these have evolved to be our Fishtanks); labor and delivery rooms were also located on our biology floor. Surgeries were performed on the chemistry floor and in the Operation Theater, which is our current art studio.

disease ran rampant in the 1950's; then it became the emergency room, with the ambulance entrance by the platform right outside. Ground E was the original morgue until 1954 when it was converted into nurses' lec-

**To A, B, D, H  
Blocks**  
*Let us all celebrate love of ourselves today.*  
**Dr. G**  
Mark Shoun,  
Thank you for the countless nights you have spent with me, my love.  
You don't know how much you mean to me.  
-Your roommate

Hootie,  
We love your smarts.  
We love your farts.  
Stacie's mom loves you, too.  
Love,  
The flopstas

  
*How could I ever forget that sleepless night we spent together? Gazing into your plum eyes, I was captured by your every feature! Oh Fly lab! My heart still pounds at the sound of your name!*  
-Alex Ahearn

Fartina,  
You smell like a lovely flower...that died last year. Sorry, thanks bye.  
Love,  
The evil triplets

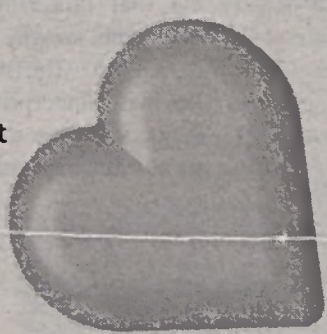
Nancy,  
Never smile at a crocodile  
And quit running into ufos  
But always watch Indiana jones  
Thanks for trying to teach me to knit  
And for putting up with a silly twit  
For giggling through 2 o'clock  
I love you dahling and you rock!  
Moo at the piggie, wrong.  
-becky

The guys in Moose's C Block,  
Thanks for tolerating me and my feminism this year. I'm sorry for any emotional anguish I've caused you. I love all of you!  
-Rachel

3B Creamery,  
*Here is some love to spread around. To the 3B click.*  
Happy Valentine's Day 3B!

**Flashback:  
A Haiku for  
George W. Bush  
Thank you president,  
For making everyone else  
Look so much smarter.**

Reynolds 2C,  
You guys are the best!  
You've made my senior year great!  
Much love, girls,  
much love.  
-Jordan

  
Sam Woolery,  
To my sweet-heart,  
Hope your Valentine's Day is as sweet as you  
Together we will share all things new  
Color the sky, taste the air  
I never knew someone so fair  
You dazzled me at the dance  
But I just lost my chance  
Tomorrow night will be the night  
For me to set all things right  
So at 11:30 be with me  
And I'll show you how great I can be  
Forever yours,  
JJ